

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

Milwaukee Meeting, July 7, 8, 9, and 10, 1886.

TRAVELING ARRANGEMENTS FROM THE EAST.

The arrangements for the Milwaukee meeting are practically complete and give promise of an unusually interesting and attractive session. The hospitalities to be extended are on a scale worthy the great Northwest and can not but attract many from the East who would not think they could afford the journey under less favorable circumstances.

The Wisconsin railroads with great liberality have agreed to carry members of the Association free on the eight days excursion to the capital, the famous Dells, across the State and up the Mississippi river by daylight to St. Paul and Minneapolis, along Lake Superior and through the great woods of Northern Wisconsin back to Chicago. The program is more extensive and attractive than anything heretofore attempted by the A. L. A., and still more is promised to be announced later. The Secretary has authority to extend return tickets and a party will spend some weeks after the convention and the national Sngerfest, in a vacation at one of the many attractive summer resorts, probably in Northern Michigan near the Sault-Ste. Marie.

Those wishing details of the great National Sngerfest which begins in Milwaukee, Wed., July 14, can address Mr. K. A. Linderfelt, Public Library, Milwaukee.

Members may bring friends freely, who become associates of the A. L. A. for the year on payment of \$2, and receive all reduced rates and a copy of the Proceedings. The very great reductions in the cost of the trip are not likely to be repeated and members and their friends should accept the very cordial invitation to take one of the finest excursions on the continent. Members wishing, can extend their stay at reduced rates.

Certificate cards of membership will be issued by the Secretary. The local committees specially urge librarians to bring their families and friends and evidently mean that our first meeting in the Northwest shall be long remembered and that those in the East who allow the considerable distance to prevent their attendance shall have abundant rea-

son to regret their mistake. The program so far as ready indicates that the sessions will be not less attractive than the excursions, so that the trip promises the rare combination of profit and pleasure which the librarian needs and appreciates.

A hopeful sign is the increasing number of libraries that officially recognize the importance of sending delegates, whose expenses are paid by the library. One by one Boards of Trustees are learning that the annual meeting is a "means of grace" that cannot wisely nor economically be neglected. The librarians in attendance get rest and recreation and inspiration for their work, and they get also direct suggestions that can be applied on their return, to every-day work, often saving from a single idea gained at the conference as much as the expenses for a score of years. The Association appeals to managers to make this sending of official delegates the rule. It suggests also that institutions, where practicable, pay the \$25 and become life members, thus entitling their delegate for all time to a seat and vote in the meetings, instead of paying \$2 annually, which is really 8 per cent on the cost of life membership. Beside the economy, this plan saves the time and trouble of a petty annual payment, and a library once a life member is more likely to profit constantly by the national meetings. Librarians are requested to submit this request to their trustees, where practicable, in time for the coming meeting. It is to be hoped also that others will follow the example set by Columbia College, which has a standing rule, giving any members of its staff the necessary leave of absence, with full pay, if they will attend the annual meetings.

ROUTE.

It has been decided that all things considered the picturesque route via the Hoosac Tunnel, the West Shore R. R., Suspension Bridge, Niagara Falls, and the Great Western R. R. to Chicago offers the greatest attractions for the eastern party. Very liberal concessions have been made from regular fares, and stop-over privileges are freely granted to those asking them. The eastern parties will leave Boston, Fitchburg station at 3 P. M. and New York, West Shore station, downtown, foot of Jay Street, 5.40, up town foot of West 42nd Street at 6 P. M. Saturday, July 3d. The trains unite at Rotterdam Junction and reach Niagara Falls at 7.15 Sunday A. M. An entire day at special hotel rates is given to the Falls and the party leaves for Chicago after breakfast Monday, avoiding the expense of sleeping cars and getting the most beautiful scenery by daylight; reaching Chicago Monday, at 9.45 P. M. and giving a day and two nights to the western metropolis. Those unable to join the regular party on Saturday may leave Boston at 3 P. M., and

New York at 6 P. M., Monday, arriving at Chicago 9.45 P. M. Tuesday. This involves a long unbroken journey, \$5.00 instead of \$2.50 for sleeping cars and misses the Niagara and the Chicago days and evenings which promise to be specially enjoyable. Unless in an emergency every member should go with the regular party in the A. L. A. car. Wednesday at 8 A. M. the party leaves Chicago for Milwaukee which is reached at 11 A. M. The opening session will be Wednesday P. M.

Those preferring the southern route via New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington, over the mountains by the Baltimore & Ohio R. R. may leave Washington, July 5, on the 10 A. M. limited express, getting the most beautiful scenery by daylight and joining the Niagara party at Chicago Tuesday, at 9 A. M. Delegates may spend Sunday in Washington or leave New York at 9 or 12 P. M. Sunday, getting to Washington at 5.35 and 8.05 A. M. or coming later may take the 10 P. M. express from Washington, reaching Chicago at 7 A. M. Wednesday in time to go to Milwaukee on the A. L. A. car. Tickets are \$27.60 from New York and \$35.00 from Boston via 4.30 P. M. train. The attractions of both routes may be combined by exchanging tickets at Milwaukee.

EXPENSES.

Tickets for the round trip, to Milwaukee and return, good for 60 days, from New York \$25.00, from Boston \$30.00. This does not include sleeping car berth (\$2.50 for double berth, Boston to Niagara) or meals. **Those wishing to take the train at any points east of Niagara Falls** and secure reductions proportionate to these given on the excursion tickets from Boston and New York **must get a blank** from the Library Bureau, 32 Hawley St., Boston, and on buying their ticket at regular rates, must have the ticket agent sign this blank, showing that full fare has been paid one way. This voucher will enable the member to secure return tickets by paying the small balance required. Those buying the regular New York or Boston tickets require no blank.

Tickets have been so arranged that those not caring for opportunity to stop over at Niagara and Chicago and take the journey more leisurely, may get the same rates, and take the last possible train through to Milwaukee without stop.

The headquarters in Milwaukee will be the Plankinton House, the best in the city, where for members of the A. L. A. the rate has been reduced from \$4.00 to \$2.50 per day. The Avenue House, a family hotel, charmingly situated on Washington Place in the best part of the city, four blocks west of the Public Library, will furnish board and

room for two persons at \$1.25 per day each. Liberal concessions to A. L. A. members will be made at all points. At Chicago the Clifton House reduces to \$2.00 and \$2.50 per day. The reductions at other points will be given as soon as the number who will go is reported.

The A. L. A. Post-Conference Excursion starts from Milwaukee on *Monday*, July 12, 7.45 A. M., picking up on the way those who have spent Sunday at the summer resorts, arriving at Madison at 10.45 A. M. and leaving at 5 P. M. for Kilbourn City, which is reached at 7.45 P. M.

Tuesday, Steamboat excursion through Upper Dells; afternoon, carriage excursion to Standing Rock; evening, steamboat excursion by moonlight through Lower Dells.

Wednesday, 5.29 A. M. leave Kilbourn City; 2.25 P. M. arrive St. Paul.

Thursday, at St. Paul and Minneapolis; 10 P. M. leave St. Paul for Lake Superior.

Friday morning, arrive at Ashland in time for breakfast; excursion by steamboat to Apostle Islands, returning to Ashland for the night.

Saturday, excursion to Gogebic iron mines, returning at 4 P. M.

Monday, 10.15 A. M. leave Ashland, going through the woods of Northern Wisconsin by day, and reaching Chicago

Tuesday, at 7 A. M. The exercises here will be announced later.

This schedule provides for only two nights on the road with the consequent expense for sleeping cars, and takes us along the Mississippi river in the day time; hotel expenses will be made as light as possible, and may be regulated, in the larger cities, according to individual tastes. For special excursions satisfactory arrangements can be made, as soon as an estimate of the number likely to participate is known. Several places to be visited have signified their intention of extending courtesies to the Association.

Those wishing to go on the eight day excursion should report their names as soon as decided to Mr. K. A. Linderfelt, Milwaukee Public Library.

Those wishing reduced rates should send their names, the number in the party, the number of sleeping berths required and the time they will leave Boston and New York, to the Library Bureau, 32 Hawley street, Boston, as promptly as possible.

The tickets will be sent by mail to any member of the A. L. A. on receipt of the price, and to those wishing to join, on payment of the annual fee of \$2.00 in addition. Tickets should be secured by July 1st.

To accommodate any out of town we will purchase tickets for them on written order and deliver them on either the Boston or New York train.

Address inquiries and orders for tickets from the east to Library Bureau, 32 Hawley street, Boston.

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This project is made possible by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services as administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Education through the Office of Commonwealth Libraries

